

Application No.: 09/854,557

Docket No.: 21994-00022-US1

REMARKS

In view of the above amendment, applicant believes the pending application is in condition for allowance.

The office action and the prior art relied upon have been carefully considered.

Applicant has reviewed the specification and made appropriate changes to informalities.

In order to expedite the prosecution, claims 1, 4-9 and 14-21 have been canceled without prejudice. Thus, the rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 112 with regard to claim 4, is now moot. Also, the rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 102 regarding claims 1, 4 and 7 is moot as well.

Applicant notes that claims 22-30 have been allowed. Claims 2, 3 and 8-21 have been objected to and have been indicated as allowable if rewritten in independent form. Of this claim group, claims 8 and 9 have been canceled and the remaining claims of this group have been rewritten in independent form so as to include all the limitations of the allowable case claim.

Claims 31 and 32 are newly added to the application and present patentable subject matter.

The application is now believed to be in condition for formal allowance with all of the Examiner's requirements having been met.

In view of the above, consideration and allowance are, therefore, respectfully solicited.

In the event the Examiner believes an interview might serve to advance the prosecution of this application in any way, the undersigned attorney is available at the telephone number noted below.

The Director is hereby authorized to charge any fees, or credit any overpayment, associated with this communication, including any extension fees, to CBLH Deposit Account

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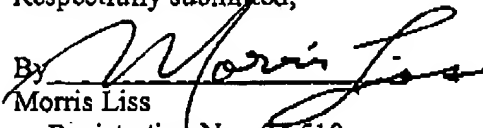
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No. 22-0185, under Order No. 21994-00022-US1 from which the undersigned is authorized to draw.

Dated: May 23, 2005

Respectfully submitted,

By


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